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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE MUSEUM

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LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Louisiana State Museum – Baton Rouge?

The museum is the newest and largest location in a family of accredited museum facilities operated by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism under the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

The mission of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism is to preserve and enhance Louisiana's unique heritage and natural landscape; provide cultural, informational, and recreational resources; and promote the use of these resources by our diverse citizens and visitors.

Other locations of the Louisiana State Museum include:

New Orleans
Natchitoches
Patterson
Thibodaux

2. What are the hours of operation?

The museum's operating schedule is as follows:

Tuesday – Friday	10:00 am-5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am- 5:00pm
Sunday	1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Monday	Closed
Major Holidays	Closed

3. What are the admission charges?

There are none! As of June 19th, the Louisiana State Museum-Baton Rouge will be free of admission fees.

4. Can I have my wedding there?

Absolutely! From our beautiful outdoor plaza with stunning views of the Capitol, to our fantastic and fun museum exhibits, The Louisiana State Museum in downtown Baton Rouge is the perfect place for your perfect wedding. Call the Events Coordinator at 225/ 219-0726 to make your appointment today!

5. How do I make a group tour reservation?

Groups may schedule a visit to the museum by calling (225)342-5414 or (225) 342-5428. Advance reservations are required. Tours are self-guided.

6. Where can I park?

Limited parking, both paid and free, is available along North 4th Street, North 5th Street, and Spanish Town Rd. Limited disability parking is available in front of the museum on 4th Street and on the museum grounds.

7. Does public transportation serve the museum?

The downtown trolley system operated along North 4th Street, with Stop 14 in front of the museum, on weekdays. The trolley stops in front of the State Library approximately every 10-15 minutes from 10:30 am – 2:30 pm. There is no service available on weekends.

8. Is the museum accessible for people with disabilities?

Yes! Restrooms, elevator, and exit signage is in Braille. All audio-visual programs in the exhibit are closed-captioned. Limited parking is available on North 4th Street in front of the museum. We are continuously working on new ways to accommodate our guests and make everyone feel as comfortable as possible.

9. Where are the exhibits and what do they feature?

The museum contains two galleries that hold “permanent” exhibits:

The first floor gallery is entitled “Ground for Greatness: Louisiana and the Nation” and highlights aspects of the state’s history that changed the United States such as:

- The Mighty Mississippi
- Louisiana Purchase
- Louisiana at War
- Louisiana Giants (Huey Long and Louis Armstrong)
- Slavery in Louisiana
- Civil Rights
- Natural Abundance

Sportsman's Paradise

Poverty Point

The third floor gallery is entitled "The Louisiana Experience: Discovering the Soul of America" and features aspects of the state's culture that are unique. Topics include:

Louisiana Routes

Louisiana Dancehall

Mardi Gras

The museum also contains a changing gallery on the third floor, which is a venue for changing and traveling exhibits.

10. What is the art in the lobby?

The piece is entitled "River of Memory" and was created by Minnesota artist Alexander Tylevich. The art, funded by the Louisiana Percent for Art Program, combines elements from both human and natural history with the energy of the Mississippi, that heavily influenced Louisiana, to symbolize the state's history and culture. The art can be viewed from both the first and third floor lobbies.

11. What is on the second floor?

The museum's offices. Want to come work with us? Check out our website for volunteer opportunities!

<http://lsm.crt.state.la.us>

12. Where are the restrooms?

Public restrooms are located on the northern end of the first and third floor lobbies. They are accessible for people with disabilities. Water fountains are located adjacent to the restrooms.

13. Where is the elevator?

The elevator is located at the southwest corner of the lobby. The elevator serves the public floors of the museum.

14. Does the museum have a gift shop?

The museum does not currently have a gift shop, but plans call for the addition of one in the future. For a short time in spring 2010, we will have the Foundation for Historical Louisiana gift shop.

15. Does the museum have a restaurant, coffee shop, or vending area?

The museum does not offer food or beverage service at this time. However, the Main Street Market, a block south of the museum, offers a variety of food and drinks. Several other restaurants are located within walking distance. No food or drink is permitted in the galleries at any time.

16. Does the museum have a docent or support group?

The museum does not have a docent group, but we are always looking for good volunteers. Currently, a group called the Louisiana State Museum Friends is forming. For more information, please call the Public Information Officer at 225/219-0726.

17. What programs are offered by the museum?

The museum offers a wide variety of programs for all ages including:
Self-guided tours for student and adult groups
Participatory workshops for children and families
Lunchtime Lagniappe
Walk This Way in History

Check our website for more information!:
<http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/br/br.htm>

18. Is there any particular significance to the museum's location?

The museum is located adjacent to the State Capitol in the heart of Capitol Park. The general area has been used by American Indians, served as an important United States military base, and was an earlier site of Louisiana State University. Spanish Town, a neighborhood established in 1805, borders the museum on the east. Additional information on the area may be obtained from the Visitor's Center.

19. Where are other sites of historical and cultural interest in the area?

Downtown Baton Rouge contains a variety of important sites and institutions such as the:

- State Capitol and its gardens, where Huey Long is buried
- Old State Capitol
- Old Governor's Mansion
- Pentagon Barracks
- Old Arsenal Museum

20. What are the "Local Links" found in the exhibits?

The “Local Links” are references to other Louisiana museums, historic sites, or park where museum visitors can explore a particular exhibit topic in-depth. The “Local Link” disc contains the locations and contact information for these entities.